



ASPIRA

ASSOCIATION, INC.

NATIONAL OFFICE ANNUAL REPORT 1988

ASPIRA Association, Inc.
National Office
Annual Report
1988

The ASPIRA Association takes its name from the Spanish verb *aspirar*, which means "to aspire to something greater." It is immediately recognized by Spanish-speaking youth as a forceful reminder that they can change their lives if they work hard and strive for a goal. ASPIRA helps young Latinos focus on that goal and guides them in achieving it. These *aspirantes*--those who aspire to a brighter future--are the hope of the Latino community.

El Pitirre



The *pitirre* is the symbol of ASPIRA. A small, fragile tropical bird found in Puerto Rico, the *pitirre* is known for its agility and rapid flight and for its ability to outsmart, tire, and defeat much larger birds, such as the hawk.

ASPIRA believes that the *pitirre* is a fitting symbol for young Latinos. *Aspirantes* gain the confidence of the *pitirre* by acquiring knowledge and developing their leadership skills. They then are able to face and overcome seemingly overwhelming odds to become productive adults, returning to their communities the benefits of their skills and leadership abilities.

The symbol of the *pitirre* reinforces ASPIRA's belief that even the smallest and seemingly most powerless can take control of their lives and bring about change.

Table of Contents

Message from the Chairperson and the National Executive Director	5
ASPIRA--A National Association	6
Highlights of Accomplishments	9
National Office Corporate, Foundation, and Government Sponsors 1987-88	15
ASPIRA National Board of Directors	16
ASPIRA Councils of Advisors	17
ASPIRA Association Office Locations	20
ASPIRA National Office Staff	21

"ASPIRA has lived up to its name in providing hope and opportunity for youth."

-Brian O'Connell
President
Independent Sector

"...We've had a lot of people trying to help but very few have the success ASPIRA does. We've got all these people out there who are successful because ASPIRA helped at one time or another. I don't know of an organization that has done more. I would like nothing better than to see organizations like ASPIRA spread throughout this country. It would mean a tremendous amount, first to individual human beings themselves, then to our country."

-Thomas Kean
Governor
State of New Jersey

"...ASPIRA is a vital lifeline for the Puerto Rican community...The entire nation is polarizing on economic and education lines. Education remains the best and only bridge to professional employment. ASPIRA is the key support for that bridge."

-Rafael L. Cortada, Ph.D.
President, University of
the District of Columbia

"I applaud what you at ASPIRA are doing...On issues of bilingual education, English literacy, and...the right of every boy or girl to have every possible opportunity...you are standing up for what is important."

-The Hon. Paul Simon
U.S. Senator

"...ASPIRA is unique...it is one of a few Hispanic managed community based organizations serving as an advocate for, and providing services to, the Hispanic community...ASPIRA serves as a role model for future Hispanic community leaders."

-Joseph A. Fernández, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Dade County
Public Schools

"ASPIRA is a commitment to the future of the Hispanic community. It is a declaration of faith in a better tomorrow, an investment. ASPIRA is an investment in our most precious resource--our children."

-Flora Mancuso Edwards, Ph.D.
President, Middlesex
County College



Message from the Chairperson and the National Executive Director

The year 1988 marks the 20th Anniversary of ASPIRA's incorporation as a national association. In celebrating this milestone, we are reminded once again of our roots. Beginning with the efforts of a small group of community leaders in New York City, ASPIRA has grown over the years into an organization which has served over 165,000 Latino youth. We are the oldest nonprofit organization in the United States dedicated to encouraging and promoting education and leadership development among young Hispanics.

This year we are pleased to see that the concerns we have been working with for so long are now national concerns. The specter of an undereducated work force in a highly technological world is moving government officials, corporate executives, educators, and community leaders to join together to combat the crises of dropouts, illiteracy, and decaying urban communities.

The continued relevance of ASPIRA's mission and goals more than a quarter of a century after its founding is made patent by the findings of our study, Northeast Hispanic Needs: A Guide for Action, published this year. In the opinion of the Latino leaders who participated in the study, ASPIRA's long-term goals of promoting educational achievement and leadership development remain the top priorities for Latino communities.


ASPIRA is well poised to expand to meet the increased demand for its services and expertise in youth development. Now is the time that

we need to communicate our long history of success, so that our ASPIRA model can be replicated and expanded to new age groups, new neighborhoods, new cities, and new states. There is a growing awareness within our association of just how critical an impact ASPIRA can make on our communities. As with any 20-year old, we are just now awakening to our full potential.

Twenty-seven years after the first ASPIRA office opened, we find ourselves continually encountering government officials, foundation representatives, business people, doctors, lawyers, educators, and others who tell us, "Oh, I was an Aspirante!" These successful, committed people demonstrate to us the good work which we have done. Yet we have only to look at the young people in our inner cities to know that there is much still for us to do. As we mark our 20th anniversary, we are thankful for our strong roots which enable us--and the young people we serve--to reach for the sky.

William Radinson
Chair, National Board of Directors

Janice Petrovich, Ed.D.
National Executive Director



ASPIRA--A National Association

Background

ASPIRA was founded in 1961 by a group of concerned community leaders, parents, and professionals in New York City who met to discuss the alarming dropout rate of Hispanic students and the social and economic conditions of the Puerto Rican community. Through their efforts, ASPIRA of New York was formed as the first nonprofit organization in the United States dedicated to encouraging and promoting education and leadership development among Latino youth.

In 1968, ASPIRA opened a National Office and expanded beyond New York City to sites throughout the eastern United States and Puerto Rico. With its National Office in Washington, D.C., the ASPIRA Association currently includes Associate offices in New York City; Newark, Jersey City, Camden, Paterson, and Trenton, New Jersey; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Chicago, Illinois; Dade County, Florida; and Carolina, Puerto Rico. In 1987, ASPIRA's programs assisted 12,800 youths; 70% of the students who graduated from high school were placed in postsecondary educational institutions through the assistance of ASPIRA.

With a combined Association budget of \$5 million and a combined staff of 220 located in ASPIRA offices throughout the country, ASPIRA today is the largest, most active Hispanic youth organization in the United States. The core of the ASPIRA Process is the ASPIRA Clubs in local high schools, which currently number 92, and where students develop the self-confidence and motivation to succeed. ASPIRA is a leader in the

placement of Latinos in postsecondary and graduate schools. In its 27 years, ASPIRA has worked with over 165,000 young Latinos. Many of these *Aspirantes* (ASPIRA alumni) are already occupying leadership positions in numerous areas of influence, including:

- o Joseph Aguayo, the General Secretary of the International Multiple Sclerosis Society in London;
- o Lillian Fernández, Esq., the former Staff Director of the Congressional Committee on the Census and now Director of Trade Policy of Pfizer, Inc.;
- o Fernando Ferrer, President of the Borough of the Bronx, New York City;
- o the Honorable Raymond Figueroa, an alderman in Chicago;
- o Lydia Hernández-Vélez, Esq., the Executive Vice President of the Private Industry Council in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;
- o Dr. Jaime Martínez, the Director of Adolescent Medicine for a major medical facility in Miami;
- o the Honorable Myrna Milán and the Honorable Severiano Lisboa, Municipal Court Judges in the State of New Jersey;
- o Luís Quintana, the Deputy Mayor of Newark, New Jersey;
- o Executive Directors of local ASPIRA Associates, including Emanuel Ortiz, Executive Director of ASPIRA of Pennsylvania, and Aida Sánchez-Romano, Executive Director of ASPIRA of Illinois.

Young Hispanics in ASPIRA programs will take their own places among the future leaders and professionals in the Latino community. Nevertheless, the needs ASPIRA began to address back in

1961 continue to grow. At a time when the U.S. needs a more educated workforce, fifty percent of Latinos still drop out of school. ASPIRA has for over 20 years conducted extensive research on Hispanic dropouts, and studies have been carried out at all ASPIRA offices. ASPIRA of New Jersey has found that most of the dropouts that come to them for services have left school in the 8th and 9th grades. As dropouts, these young people are twice as likely to be unemployed as high school graduates, and five times more likely than college graduates, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. Prospects for the young women are particularly grim. An ASPIRA of Pennsylvania study found that only 33% of the Puerto Rican women in Philadelphia who became pregnant before age 18 finished high school. These women had the highest rates of unemployment and the greatest need for public assistance.

It is no wonder that the ASPIRA Institute for Policy Research's study published under the title, Northeast Hispanic Needs: A Guide for Action, found that Latino leaders identify education as the top priority need of Latino communities in the Northeast United States.

The Latino community cannot develop if so many of its young people are lost each year. The Latino population is growing five times faster than the general population. The U.S. economy cannot long afford to have such a large proportion of its workforce unprepared for productive employment in an increasingly diversifying and challenging labor market. ASPIRA faces an ever-growing demand for its expertise in school retention and its



ASPIRA staff, board members, and Aspirantees at ASPIRA's 20th Anniversary reception.

educational and training services, which are increasingly vital for the well-being of all Americans.

ASPIRA recognizes that only individuals can make the decision and commitment necessary to change their own lives. Therefore, ASPIRA focuses on activities that make it possible for young Latinos to take control of their future. ASPIRA provides the encouragement and guidance that help young Latinos develop their own inner resources. Yet, education without concern for and commitment to others is of limited value to the community. We are, therefore, inspired to orient students not only towards the acquisition of knowledge and greater professionalism, but also towards a deep appreciation of their cultural roots and a comprehensive assessment of their community's needs and resources.

Mission and Goals

ASPIRA's mission is to foster the socioeconomic development of the Latino community. To ensure the success of that mission, the ASPIRA Association has identified three primary goals designed to prepare Hispanic youth to accept their responsibilities as leaders in the community. These goals are:

- o to develop the leadership potential of Hispanic youth by encouraging them to become aware of the socioeconomic conditions, needs, and potential of their community, and by fostering a commitment to dedicate their skills to the further development of the Hispanic community;
- o to motivate, orient, and assist Hispanic youth in their personal, intellectual, cultural, and educational development through counseling and educational services; and
- o to increase access of Hispanic youth to quality education and

leadership training through research, pilot programs, and related advocacy projects.

These goals can be summed up in three phrases: **leadership development, educational achievement and intellectual growth, and research and advocacy.** The ASPIRA National Office supports the Associates in meeting collective goals. Within this framework, each Associate has established programs and objectives that are responsive to local issues and resources.

This Annual Report focuses on the activities of the National Office of the ASPIRA Association. Within the mission and goals of the ASPIRA Association specific programs offered by the Associates are tailored to meet the needs and priorities of the communities they serve. We encourage you to contact the local offices to learn more about them. Addresses, phone numbers, and contact persons are listed on page 20 of this report.



APPLP National Interns staff with Secretary of Labor Ann McLaughlin and Assistant Secretary Fred Alvarez.



Highlights of Accomplishments

The ASPIRA National Office serves the Association through a variety of roles. One of the National Office's main functions is

Association building: working on short- and long-range strategic planning for the Association, facilitating expansion of services, ensuring quality processes, and improving coordination and communication within the Association. In this capacity, the ASPIRA National Office conducts staff training and development sessions for the Association, coordinates planning and national board meetings, and develops and implements national programs in fields such as health careers, leadership development, and dropout prevention.

The National Office's second major function is that of **public relations:** communicating ASPIRA's effectiveness to the outside world through marketing, publications, networking with other organizations, and coordinated fundraising throughout the Association. A third function is **research and advocacy:** working to increase the access of Latino students to quality educational opportunities. To that end, the National Office conducts research and publishes documents dealing with critical issues for Latinos. ASPIRA National strives to maintain and develop relations with policy makers in both the public and private sectors to increase their awareness of the needs of the Hispanic community and ensure the enactment of policies to promote our collective progress.

ASSOCIATION BUILDING

To enhance the development of Latino communities, the ASPIRA

Association National Office has undertaken activities to strengthen the bonds of the Association, expand into new geographic locations, and strengthen and increase program offerings.

Enhancing cooperation

As we look towards the future, we realize that in order to remain a strong organization we need to enhance the sense of community and cooperation among the Associates. In 1987 the Association officially changed its name from ASPIRA of America, Inc., to the ASPIRA Association, Inc. The new name better reflects the nature of ASPIRA as an Association of autonomous yet interdependent entities with a common mission and goals. The Association's national newsletter, ASPIRA News, was initiated to increase the flow of information on the Association both inside and outside the organization.

Strategic planning

The National Office planned and executed numerous meetings of staff, board members, and student leaders to enhance communication and ensure participation in decision making. Such meetings identified three major priorities for the next five years: increasing the number of students served, ensuring the economic growth of the Association to support expansion of services, and enhancing the Association's visibility and impact.

Geographic expansion

In the past year, Latino community leaders in the cities of Wilmington, Delaware; Holyoke, Massachusetts; and Arlington,

Virginia requested meetings with ASPIRA to discuss the possibility of opening ASPIRA affiliates in these cities. ASPIRA has been receiving an increasing number of requests for assistance from Latino communities outside its current service areas. It is time to expand again. The National Office is planning a leadership retreat for the Association to discuss expansion. In order to build on our experience, a survey of the expansion efforts of the Associate Offices was conducted.

Strengthening programs

The need for geographic expansion of ASPIRA's services is coupled with the need to strengthen and expand program offerings. The National Office is thus seeking ways of assisting the Association to serve younger age groups, increase participation in existing programs, create new programs, and increase staff training.

In the past year, the National Office provided on-site technical assistance and training to ASPIRA Associate Offices. Development and training meetings for Association staff were conducted in Washington, DC. In addition to receiving materials and information to assist in strengthening program services, these meetings provided program staff with a unique opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, and share experiences with others.

Training meetings provide one avenue for the ASPIRA National Office to continue to monitor and provide program assistance for our long-standing National Health Careers and ASPIRA Public Policy Leadership Programs. The Health Careers Program has completed its 17th year of providing 1,000 high

school and college students annually with access to the health professions. Last year, 94 students in the program applied to medical and health professions schools. Fifty-nine students were accepted. Over the 17 years of the program, 729 students have been accepted to health professions programs. The National Health Careers Program has been principally funded by the U.S. Public Health Service for its high school and college outreach for the entire 17 years. For the past two years, the Pew Memorial Trust has also funded the college outreach.

The 1987-88 ASPIRA Public Policy Leadership Program (APPLP), funded by the Ford Foundation, brought together 123 students in nine cities to study public policy and work with local policy makers. The program culminated this summer with National Internships which brought nine students to Washington, DC for four weeks of work and study with officials of the federal government and other national policy makers. (See box for national internship sites.)

The National Office has increased its efforts to strengthen the Association's mechanisms for coordinated fundraising with the purpose of expanding ASPIRA services. As an example, the National Office assisted ASPIRA of Pennsylvania in obtaining ten computers from Apple Computer, Inc. Associates were provided with information on community foundations located in their states, and new avenues for program funding were pursued through sales of the report Northeast Hispanic Needs: A Guide for Action. In addition to seeking to establish partnerships between corporations and foundations and all Associates, in 1987-88 the Associates received

nearly a half million dollars through the National Office in national program funds

PUBLIC RELATIONS

As part of a growing organization, the ASPIRA National Office has worked to increase ASPIRA's visibility and sphere of influence by strengthening and

expanding relationships with policy makers in the government, corporations, foundations, educational associations, and nonprofit organizations.

Increasing visibility

The ASPIRA National Office has worked to achieve the creative participation of the mass media in helping to tell the story of ASPIRA. To this end, a "Media Resource Guide" was prepared and sent to each ASPIRA Associate Office to assist them in their press work. Further, National Office staff have participated or been featured in the following radio and television programs: Univision's *Lo Nuestro*; "Young People Who Do Not Graduate from High School" and "Academic Reform and What it Means to the Hispanic Community" on *Conversaciones desde Wngspread*, distributed nationally to Spanish-language radio stations, National Public Radio, Univision, during the National Hispanic Leadership Conference, and Washington, DC-based Radio Mundo. In addition, the National Office facilitated media coverage on the work of ASPIRA Associates, including a program on ASPIRA of New York which appeared on Univision, and an article on ASPIRA of Florida which appeared in El Nuevo Herald.

The ASPIRA News newsletter began quarterly publication in July, 1987. During this fiscal year four issues have been published, with a growing circulation now over 2,000. The newsletter provides Associates with information on what is occurring at other ASPIRA offices, and increases public recognition of the successes of the ASPIRA movement.

APPLP National Summer Mentors, 1987-1988

The Honorable Donna M. Alvarado,
Director, ACTION

The Honorable Patricia Díaz-Dennis,
Commissioner, Federal
Communications Commission

Edward H. Jurith, Staff Director,
House Select Committee on
Narcotics Abuse and Control

Vicki Otten, Staff Director, Senate
Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee
on the Constitution

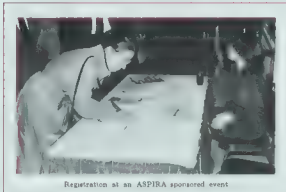
Angel L. Robles, Jr., EEO Officer,
American Red Cross

Marian Rodríguez, Legislative
Assistant, Office of Senator Alan
Cranston

Virginia Rodríguez, Director, Office
of Public Affairs, The Washington Post

Ann Rosewater, Staff Director,
House Select Committee on
Children, Youth, and Families

Diana Torres, Director of Project
Blueprint, United Way of America



Registration at an ASPIRA sponsored event

Strengthening relationships

We are working to develop and maintain effective relationships with corporate, foundation and government funding sources through information dissemination and building partnerships. This effort has been greatly enhanced by the addition of an executive-on-loan from the IBM Corporation to assist the Association in marketing and fund raising. In July 1987, the ASPIRA National Office published a 3-Year Working Document, which was utilized as a marketing tool with other organizations and funding sources. In addition, all ASPIRA Associates receive technical assistance from the National Office for government grants and in government relations for their federally funded programs.

ASPIRA seeks to inform policy makers through publication of research and policy analyses. In January 1988, the ASPIRA Institute for Policy Research released its needs assessment, Northeast Hispanic Needs: A Guide for Action. A two-volume report on the findings

of a study of 450 Latino community leaders funded by the NYNEX Foundation, the report has been distributed to over 1,500 policy makers and community leaders throughout the country. Press coverage of the report ranged from The Boston Globe in Massachusetts to Noticias del Mundo in New York City and El Nuevo Dia in Puerto Rico.

The Institute for Policy Research also initiated a Working Paper Series this year. The first publication of this series was entitled, "Hispanics and Philanthropy: Policy Issues to the Year 2000."

Collaborative efforts

As a growing organization, ASPIRA is constantly working to expand its base of volunteers. The Association as a whole utilizes the services of over 900 volunteers. At the National Office, Councils of Advisors for the ASPIRA Public Policy Leadership Program, the National Health Careers Program, and the ASPIRA Institute for Policy Research continued to enhance the work of the Board of Directors by serving as volunteer spokespersons, role models, and mentors, as well as advisors on resources and funding sources at both national and local levels. The office has also greatly benefited this year from the volunteer support of several college students who worked in areas of legislation, publications, and leadership development.

ASPIRA's research and program accomplishments have been disseminated by staff through conference presentations to numerous organizations, including the Association of American Colleges' Annual Institute on the Study and Practice of Leadership, the Children's Defense Fund, the College Board, the Council of Chief State School Officers, Hispanics in Philanthropy, the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Independent Sector (Research Forum), the Latin American Community Center, the Martin Luther King, Jr Student Leadership Conference, the National Hispanic Leadership Conference, the National Hispanic Family Against Drug Abuse, the National Institute Against Drug Abuse, the National Puerto Rican Coalition, the Task Force on Women and Minorities in Science and Education, and the Quality Education for Minorities Project

Nationally, new collaborative efforts for program development have been initiated with a number of organizations. These include the American Association for the Advancement of Science for education programs in science and mathematics, the Association of American Medical Colleges for expanding ASPIRA's health careers program, the Hispanic National Bar Association for a mentor program in the legal profession, the Association for Puerto Ricans in Science and Engineering for a mentor program in science, mathematics and engineering fields, and the U.S. Public Health Service for a volunteer development program among alumni of the Health Careers Program

In May, the ASPIRA National Office held a roundtable discussion

on "Building Collaborative Efforts at Increasing Hispanic and Other Underrepresented Minority Participation in the Medical and Health Professions." Over sixty individuals representing medical and health professions institutions, national organizations involved in the health professions, government and foundation representatives, and ASPIRA staff attended the meeting

Additionally, the staff of ASPIRA's National Office serve on the Boards of Directors of numerous organizations, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Independent Sector, the National Puerto Rican Coalition, the National Urban Coalition, the National Coalition of Advocates for Students, and the U.S. Office of Minority Health. Board participation helps ASPIRA strengthen programs, increase the visibility of ASPIRA, and enhance development efforts. In addition, it brings ASPIRA's "voice" to important and varied policy making arenas

RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

The National Office continually keeps abreast of and passes on to Associate offices information on proposed federal programs relevant to ASPIRA's programs, mission, and goals

Governmental relations

During the 100th Congress, the ASPIRA National Office worked in collaboration with major national organizations to educate policymaking bodies, community organizations, and Latino advocates on the following issues:

- o An omnibus education bill which authorizes funds for most major education programs, including those helping poor, minority, and limited-English proficient children,
- o A program which provides funds for the establishment, operation, and improvement of English literacy programs,
- o A health careers program which helps to increase the number of minority students entering and graduating from health professions institutions,
- o Programs targeted to limited English proficient children,
- o Funding for institutions with a significant Hispanic enrollment,
- o Funding for bilingual education programs,
- o Developing the National Agenda of the National Hispanic Leadership Conference, which provides information to public

officials on needs, priorities, and concerns of Latinos,

- o Promoting the value of English language proficiency plus mastery of a second language

Research and dissemination

In the field of research, the ASPIRA Institute for Policy Research published in January its needs assessment of Latino communities in the Northeast, Northeast Hispanic Needs: A Guide for Action

The ASPIRA Institute continued its two-year dropout study supported by the Inter-University Program for Latino Research, "Hispanic Dropouts in Five Cities: the Role of Family, the Community, and Schools" The data gathering stage was completed this year, and the data are now being analyzed. The final report is scheduled to be released by February 1989. The cities studied include Chicago, Illinois, Miami, Florida, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Newark, New Jersey, and San Antonio, Texas.



APPLP Coordinator Arcadio Torres-Arroyo and National Intern Maria Medina with U.S. Representative Solomon Ortiz

ASPIRA plans to use the results of this study to develop materials for parents and community leaders on effective school retention strategies. Through its newly-funded Hispanic Community Mobilization for Dropout Prevention Project, supported by the U.S. Department of Education, ASPIRA will disseminate the study's findings in a practical guide for parents describing causes of school dropouts, the ASPIRA model, and parent/community involvement strategies to encourage Latino children's success in school. ASPIRA staff will also conduct workshops on retention strategies for the community during the next two years, drawing on ASPIRA's 27 years of successful experience.



National Office Corporate, Foundation, and Government Sponsors, 1987-88

AT&T Foundation, Inc.	Inter-University Program for Latino Research
Aetna Life & Casualty Foundation	JCPenney Company, Inc.
Amax Foundation, Inc.	K Mart Corporation
Anheuser-Busch Companies	The McGraw-Hill Foundation, Inc
Atlantic Richfield Company	Miranda Associates, Inc
The Bristol Myers Fund, Inc.	Henry & Lucy Moses Fund, Inc.
The Sam and Louise Campe Foundation	RJR Nabisco, Inc.
Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.	PepsiCo, Inc.
Colgate-Palmolive Company	The Pew Charitable Trusts
Colt Industries, Inc	Pfizer, Inc
The Equitable	Sears, Roebuck & Co.
Exxon Corporation	Texaco, Inc.
FW Woolworth	Union Carbide Corporation
The Ford Foundation	United Way of America
General Foods Corporation	U.S. Department of Education
General Motors Corporation	U.S. Public Health Service
Gulf & Western Foundation	Walgreen Company
Hilton International	Warner-Lambert Company
Hoechst Celanese Corporation	Westinghouse Foundation
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	The Xerox Foundation
IBM Corporation	



ASPIRA National Board of Directors, 1988-89

Chairperson

***William Radinson**

Financial Analyst

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

New York, New York

Vice Chair for Personnel

Dr. Luis A. Martínez-Pérez

Professor, School of Education

Florida International University

Miami, Florida

Treasurer

José Matos-Real

Consultant

Chicago, Illinois

Vice Chair for Finance

Ricardo Torres, Esq.

Attorney

Payton and Rachlin

Miami, FL

Secretary

***María Quinones**

Executive Assistant

Office of Councilmember Tasco

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

***Kenneth Abrams-Díaz**

Student

Trujillo Alto, PR

María González Borrero

Assistant City Manager

Human Services

City of Hartford

Hartford, CT

Myrna M. Rivera

Vice President

Shearson, Lehman,

Hutton

Hato Rey, PR

***Pedro Agosto**

Student

Brooklyn, NY

***Joanne Long**

Student

Philadelphia, PA

María Santiago-Mercado

Director

Educational Services

Passaic Community

College

Paterson, NJ

Helia M. Alfaro-Bou

Educator

Río Piedras, PR

***David Lugado**

Student

Chicago, IL

***Doyle Simmons**

Student

Miami, FL

Aureo Andino

President

Andino y Asociado,

Architects

San Juan, PR

***Carlos Mercado**

Student

Newark, NJ

***Lissette Valentín-**

Rivera

Student

Newark, NJ

***Norma Cintrón**

Student

Philadelphia, PA

***Javier Noguera**

Student

Chicago, IL

***María Conde**

Student

Brooklyn, NY

Dr. Elsa Núñez-Wormack

Associate Dean of

Faculty

The College of Staten

Island

Staten Island, NY

Dr. Isa Vélez

Physician

Just for Us Clinic

Philadelphia, PA

Lorraine Cortez-

Vázquez

Director

Senior Employment

Division

City Department on

Aging

New York, NY

***Victor Ramos**

Student

Miami Shores, FL


***Vivanés Villarán-**

Osorio

Student

Canóvanas, PR

**Aspirantes*



ASPIRA National Councils of Advisors

Institute for Policy Research

Samuel Betances, Ph.D
Professor of Sociology
Northeastern Illinois University

Paquita Biascochea Holland
Principal
Oyster Bilingual School

Guarioné Díaz
Executive Director
Cuban National Planning Council,
Inc.

Marian Wright Edelman
President
Children's Defense Fund

Mario Fantini, Ed.D
Professor, School of Education
University of Massachusetts

Marifé Hernández
President
The Cultural Communications Group

J. Ralph Infante
President
Hispano Americano Advertising
Company

Hernán LaFontaine
Superintendent of Schools
Hartford Public Schools

Arturo Madrid, Ph.D
President
The Tomas Rivera Center

Sara E. Meléndez, Ed.D
Assistant to the President and
Vice Provost
University of Bridgeport

Siobhan Oppenheimer-Nicolau
President
Hispanic Policy Development Project

Isaura Santiago, Ph.D
President
Hostos Community College

Rafael Torrech
Director of External Resources
University of Puerto Rico

Raúl Yzaguirre
President
National Council of La Raza

National Health Careers Program

Rolando Thorne
Assistant Director
Correctional Services
Dade County, Florida

Rafael Collazo, O.D.
Resident, Primary Care
The Eye Institute

Arthur Culbert, Ph.D.
Director
Early Medical School Selection
Program
Boston University School of
Medicine

María García
President
Cross Cultural Pathways

Aida Giachello
Assistant Professor
College of Social Work
University of Illinois

Gil Gutiérrez, Ph.D.
Vice President
Cambridge Associates

Charles S. Ireland, Jr.
Assistant to the Dean
Temple University School of
Medicine

Alterman Jackson
Director of Admissions
Hahnemann University School of
Medicine

Leon Johnson, Ed.D.
President
National Medical Fellowships

J. Henry Montes
Program Officer
Kaiser Family Foundation

Emilio Morante
Public Health Specialist

Eric Muñoz, M.D.
Medical Director
UMDNJ - University Hospital

Sandra Palleja, M.D.
Medical Director
Screening Clinic
Jacobi Hospital

Dario Prieto
Director
Office of Minority Affairs
Association of American Medical
Colleges

René Rodríguez, M.D.
President
Inter-American College of
Physicians and Surgeons

Public Policy Leadership Program

Juan Andrade, Jr.
Executive Director
Midwest/Northeast Voter
Registration Education Project

Luis Cabán
Associate Director
Midwest/Northeast Voter
Registration Education Project

Miriam Cruz
President
Equity Research Corporation

Lillian Fernández, Esq.
Director of Trade Policy
Pfizer, Inc.

The Honorable Jaime B. Fuster
U.S. House of Representatives

Eva Gavillán, Ed.D.
Director of Adult Education
Programs
Girl Scouts of the United States

Wilfredo González
Associate Director
Equal Employment Opportunity and
Civil Rights Office
Department of State

Paul Rivera, Ph.D.
Manager of Benefits Development
Xerox Corporation

Gloria Rodríguez
Publisher
Hispanic Entrepreneur

Virginia Rodríguez
Director
Office of Public Affairs
The Washington Post

Carlos M. Santiago
Associate Regional Director
Northeast Region Council
Boy Scouts of America

Diana Torres
Director of Project Blueprint
United Way of America

The Honorable Esteban Torres
U.S. House of Representatives

Ana Vélez
Program Analyst
Bureau of Apprenticeship



ASPIRA Association Office Locations

Janice Petrovich, Ed.D.
National Executive Director
ASPIRA Association, Inc.
National Office
1112 16th Street, N.W., Suite 340
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 835-3600

Raúl Martínez
Executive Director
ASPIRA of Florida, Inc.
2902 N.W. Second Avenue
Miami, Florida 33127
(305) 576-1512

Aida Sánchez-Romano
Executive Director
ASPIRA, Inc. of Illinois
3432 West Diversey Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60647
(312) 252-0970

Hilda Rosario
Executive Director
ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey
390 Broad Street, Third Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07104
(201) 484-3314

Julia Rivera
Executive Director
ASPIRA of New York, Inc.
332 East 149th Street
Bronx, New York 10451

Emanuel Ortiz
Executive Director
ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania
526 West Girard Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19123
(215) 923-2717

Hilda Maldonado
Executive Director
ASPIRA, Inc. de Puerto Rico
Apartado 29132
Estacion 65 de Infanteria
Río Piedras, Puerto Rico 00929
(809) 768-1985



ASPIRA National Office Staff

Janice Petrovich, Ed.D.
National Executive Director
Director, Institute for Policy Research

Mónica Arnez
Receptionist

Lisa Bonilla
Assistant to the Director

Hilda Crespo
Director of Education

Kent Fortson
Director of Marketing

Elena Pell
Director of Program Development

Arcadio Torres-Arroyo
National Coordinator for
Leadership Development

Candy Vidal
Finance Consultant

Norma Viña
Financial Assistant

Elizabeth Weiser-Ramírez
Research Assistant

Editing and Layout:
Elizabeth Weiser-Ramírez
Research Assistant

Printing:
The Reprint Company, Inc.

Photos:
Luis Salvatierra